DESMOPACHRIA PORTMANNI (CLARK) IN THE UNITED STATES (COLEOPTERA: DYTISCIDAE)[1].

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Through the kindness of Hugh B. Leech of the California Academy of Sciences, I have recently been able to examine specimens of *Desmopachria portmanni* which were compared with Clark's type by J. Balfour-Browne of the British Museum. This species has apparently not been previously recorded from the United States, but specimens from Arizona and Texas have probably been masquerading in various collections as *mexicanus* Sharp. It will not fit either choice of the first couplet of my key to the U. S. and Canadian species (*Bull. Brooklyn Ent. Soc.*, 46 (4): 109–110, 1951); but can be recognized by the lack of basal plicae on the pronotum, the larger size (2.3 to 2.6 mm.), and the sutural striae which vary from well-defined to almost absent.

D. portmanni is placed in his Group II by Zimmerman (*Archiv für Naturgesch.*, Abt. A., Heft 12 (1917): 130, 1919), but the sutural stria is often very vague if not lacking. Sharp in his original description of *dispar* (*Biol. Cent. Amer., Coleoptera* I (Part 2): 17, 1882) also remarks of that species: ". . . there is an indistinct sutural impression which can scarcely be called a stria." There is, however, in *portmanni* a vaguely impressed discal series of punctures, apparently above an internal groove on each elytron, but this series is about ¼ the width of the elytron distad to the suture at its base and slants obliquely backward so that it diverges strongly to the elytral apex.

One of the interesting features of *portmanni*, and apparently of some other species of *Desmopachria*, is the occurrence of two distinct types of prosternal processes. In the males the tip of the process seems to be hollowed out so that it is bifurcate with a pit-like depression in the middle. In the females the process is more nearly normal, the tip merely being slightly depressed. Sharp (*loc. cit.*) mentions a similar condition in *D. laevis*, *variegata*, and *dispar*, but not in *portmanni* of which he had apparently seen only the unique type in the Fry collection (British Museum). He surmised that individuals with the furcate process were the females, but the converse is true in all specimens examined (both males and females dissected).

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[1] Contribution No. 595 from the Zoological Laboratories of Indiana University.

Brief Redescription of D. portmanni: Similar in general size and shape to *D. mexicanus* Sharp, but with sutural stria varying in development, pronotum without impressed lateral plicae, and clypeus with a distinct upturned margin which is indented at the middle. *Punctation* approximately as follows: Head finely, not densely punctate; pronotum with fairly coarse dense punctures along base and front margin but disk finely and sparsely punctate; elytra with fairly coarse, dense punctures along suture becoming finer and sparser toward the sides; coxal plates finely and sparsely punctate. *Color:* Head and pronotum usually shining reddish brown, the latter sometimes with sides yellow or yellowish brown; elytra yellow to yellowish brown with an indefinite discal infuscation and a moderately broad dark brown sutural stripe; venter dark brown to black. (One specimen seen is almost uniformly reddish brown above, but this seems to be due to poor preservation). Length variable, about 2.3 to 2.6 mm.

Specimens Examined: Arizona: Santa Rita Mts. (5 to 8000 ft.), July, F. H. Snow (2-leech Coll.); Madera Canyon, Santa Rita Mts., April 21, 1953, A. and H. Dietrich (1-Cornell Coll.); Huachuca Mts. (near Mexican border), May 7, 1953, A. and H. Dietrich (2-Cornell Coll.); Bear Canyon, Huachuca Mts., May 7–8, 1953, A. and H. Dietrich (16-Cornell Coll.); Mt. Lemmon, Bear Canyon, Huachuca Mts., April 18, 1953, A. and H. Dietrich (1-Cornell Coll.); Ft. Grant, Pinaleno Mts., July 15, 1917 (1-Cornell Coll.); Globe, Oct. 13, 1948, F. H. Parker (1-Leech Coll.) Texas: Limpia Canyon, Davis Mts. (500–5500 ft.), July 7, 1917 (1-Cornell Coll.); Cherry Canyon, Davis Mts., June 19, 29, and July 8, 1916, F. M. Gaige (9-Univ. Michigan Mus. Zool. and 1-Fall Coll. in Mus. of Comparative Zoology)[2]; Fort Davis, August 10, 1914, M. M. Sampson (1-UMMZ); Jeff Davis Co., Aug. 27, 1916 (1-Leech Coll.); "Texas," (1-Fall Coll., MCZ).[2]

[2] According to a label in his collection, H. C. Fall compared specimens with *mexicanus* in the Horn Collection and found them distinct, but he noted that they were identical with specimens labelled *mexicanus* in the U. S. National Museum.